

Forest Conservation Advisory Committee

Minutes

April 28, 2009

Prepared by: Laura Miller

ATTENDEES

Members

Paul Allen (WSSC), ex officio
Ginny Barnes
Pamela Browning
Rick Brush
Andrew Der
Jim Hubbard
Dan Landry
Daniel Lyons
Norman Mease
Anne Merwin, chair
Laura Miller (DEP), ex officio
Bill Pastor
Mark Pfefferle (M-NCPPC), ex officio
Dave Plummer (MSCD), ex officio
David Post

Jeff Schwartz

Linda Silversmith

Brian Straathof

Absent members

Victor Bonilla

Brett Linkletter (DPWT), ex officio

Caren Madsen

Clark Wagner

Others attending

Butch Mezik, Izaak Walton League

Larry Anderson, Izaak Walton League

Vince Berg

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by the Chair.

Two new members of the committee attended for the first time this meeting. We welcomed David Post and Brian Straathof.

The Bethesda Chevy Chase Chapter of the Izaak Walton League (IWL) hosted this month's meeting. The committee toured part of the IWL's lands located south of Poolesville. The committee looked at successful natural regeneration, or newly forming forests, that are about 10 to 12 years old, as well as typical understory development with the absence of heavy deer browsing. The IWL is successfully managing the white-tailed deer population on their land and, as such, they have natural regeneration and understory vegetation typical of forest development but not commonly found in Montgomery County.

If you are interested in more information about this chapter of the IWL you can go to www.BCCIWLA.org.

The next meeting will complement this meeting. We will visit at least three reforestation sites to see a successful project, an unsuccessful project, and something in the middle.

ACTION ITEMS: Mark and Jeff will identify sites and plan a route. Laura will arrange for vans to transport the group.

The minutes from March 24, 2009, were approved with one minor change.

The draft letter supporting forest and tree initiatives in the on-going budget discussions with the County Executive and County Council was finalized and agreed upon. The letter was drafted following the March meeting and circulated prior to the April meeting. Comments were made through email. A motion was passed to send the letter to both the County Executive and County Council. The members of the committee representing the Executive Branch and the MNCPPC recused themselves from the vote on the motion to forward the letter.

A volunteer is needed to coordinate the Woods in Your Backyard program. The Chair will ask for someone next month.

The next meeting will be **MAY 26** from approximately **2ish** to **4:30ish in the field**.

The meeting ended at approximately 4:45 pm.